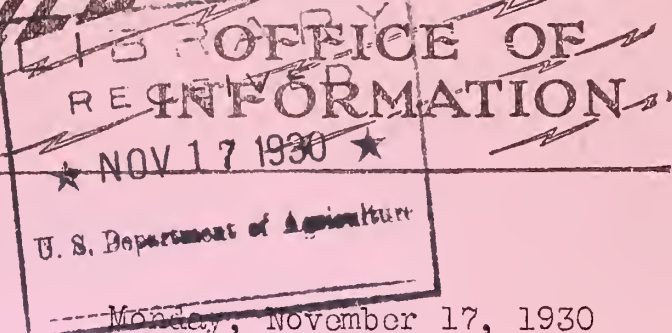


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Housekeeper's Chat

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Subject: "Time Savers in the Sewing Room." Information from the Bureau of Home Economics, U.S.D.A.

Bulletin available: Home Baking.

--ooOoo--

I sometimes wonder, if we women shorten our work as much as we might by taking advantage of the various time-saving devices at our disposal. The sewing machine, for instance. I know a woman who hardly ever uses her machine. She says she likes to sew by hand, in the evenings, while her husband reads the paper. She thinks it's sort of sociable. I'm not just sure what she does with all her daytime hours, but I'd like to tell her that her sewing machine has a lot of attachments on it which, if properly used, would release her evening hours entirely for sociability, if that's what she wants.

Perhaps it wouldn't do any of us harm to remind ourselves of the possibilities of sewing machine attachments. There's the hemmer, for example, and the binder, and the ruffler. You'd be surprised, how much time and effort you can save, by knowing what can be done with these clever devices, and how to do it. Don't try to learn to use them when you're rushed; practice on them in your spare moments.

When hemming ruffles, use the foot hemmer, or the adjustable hemmer, depending upon the width of the hem. Hems an inch wide can be made with the adjustable hemmer.

The ruffler, too, is a handy piece of machinery, especially if you are gathering yards and yards of ruffles for curtains, or if you are making several children's garments, at the same time. Of course you need not use the ruffler, for gathering short distances. Simply loosen the tension enough so that the under thread may be easily drawn up to the desired length, and stitch in the usual way.

The binder is a marvelous time-saver, when making house dresses, kitchen aprons, and children's clothes. Fit the edge which you are binding closely into the tape, and it will never pull out, when laundered.

Another piece which helps to take the drudgery out of sewing, is the buttonhole attachment, quite easy to adjust and operate. It will make several buttonholes, in the time required to make one, by hand.

Loosen the bobbin tension, have a medium top tension, and stitch the design on the wrong side. Tiny pin tucks, stitched in this way, make a very pretty trimming on wool, silk, or even cotton dresses.

Do you know how to stitch fine materials, so they won't pucker? Georgette, chiffons, and silk crepe should be stitched on strips or paper, so the cloth will not pucker. Strips of ordinary newspaper are good enough. Hold the paper under the material being stitched. It is easily pulled off, when the stitching is completed. Garments of thin materials will have a much more professional look, if carefully stitched.

Speaking of the professional look -- the best dressmakers do not use French seams for all garments. A French seam even though it is neat, often gives an amateurish appearance to the finished garment, because it "draws" slightly. A better seam, for fine silks, is a plain one, with each raw edge turned under once, and held with a running stitch. If the fabric does not ravel easily, the edges should be pinked with a pinking machine. The pinking machine is small, and can be clamped to the edge of your sewing table. With a pinking machine, you can make a neat, notched edge, in no time at all.

Another time-saver in the sewing room is an iron, and ironing board. The finished appearance of a garment is very much improved, if the hems and seams are pressed in. Whether a hem is to be basted or not, after the width is measured carefully, with a notched pasteboard, both the first and second turning should be pressed in with an iron.

A yardstick is almost a necessity, in the sewing room. It is often easier to use than a tape line, especially when marking the hem of a skirt.

By the way, I know of a very good method of marking a hem-line, if you do not have some one to help you. The ideal line to mark, if you want your skirt to hang straight, is around the largest part of the hips. You can mark this line by fastening a piece of soft chalk to the table top, so that the end of the chalk extends beyond the table. Then do a "Ring-around the Rosy," all by yourself, by turning about, and allowing the chalk to mark the dress at the hip line. Then you can measure from the chalk line, to the hem line. This is an accurate, easy way to make a hem line.

You probably keep a piece of chalk in your sewing basket. Tailor's chalk, in two or three colors, should be kept on hand, for marking perforations, and notches, instead of cutting them. Tailors' chalk can be bought at the notion counters of most department stores.

Try to keep one pair of scissors, for cutting only cloth. Dull scissors may spoil the fine detail, and line, of a garment. Dull pins and needles, too, are often used with disastrous effects.

Here's a time-saving suggestion, too, on making children's clothes: Cut out several garments at the same time, even though they will be finished in different ways. Stitch all the seams you can at one sitting. Then trim, fold, and baste at another sewing period. Make pockets, cuffs, collars, and other extra or decorative parts at one time, because your skill increases with repetition. Keep the parts that require hand-finishing in a convenient place for "pick-up" work.

1. The first part of the report
describes the general situation
of the country, its people, its
economy, its politics, its culture.

2. The second part of the report
describes the situation in the
different regions of the country.
It gives a detailed account of
the political, economic, and
cultural conditions in each
region.

3. The third part of the report
describes the situation in the
different provinces of the country.
It gives a detailed account of
the political, economic, and
cultural conditions in each
province.

4. The fourth part of the report
describes the situation in the
different districts of the country.
It gives a detailed account of
the political, economic, and
cultural conditions in each
district.

5. The fifth part of the report
describes the situation in the
different counties of the country.
It gives a detailed account of
the political, economic, and
cultural conditions in each
county.

6. The sixth part of the report
describes the situation in the
different towns of the country.
It gives a detailed account of
the political, economic, and
cultural conditions in each
town.

7. The seventh part of the report
describes the situation in the
different villages of the country.
It gives a detailed account of
the political, economic, and
cultural conditions in each
village.

8. The eighth part of the report
describes the situation in the
different hamlets of the country.
It gives a detailed account of
the political, economic, and
cultural conditions in each
hamlet.

9. The ninth part of the report
describes the situation in the
different settlements of the country.
It gives a detailed account of
the political, economic, and
cultural conditions in each
settlement.

Now, if you'll get your pencils, I'll give you a dinner menu. Monday's dinner should be easy to prepare, whether the day has been devoted to picking up the house after Sunday's relaxation and getting ready for wash-day, or whether you have plunged right in to the big task of the week. Are you ready?

Corned Beef Hash, String Beans, Creamed Celery, Fruit Cup, and Plain Cake. Nothing hard about that, is there?

However, a good many people do not know exactly how to make appetizing corned beef hash. There are several tricks to it, the Recipe Lady says. One is having equal amounts of cooked meat and potato. Another is in grinding the meat and potato together. A third point is in flavoring with a little minced onion and a dash of cayenne pepper for piquancy. Generally there is enough salt in the corned beef to season the mixture. Be sure to taste it before you add more salt. Finally, the hash must be cooked carefully so that a delicate brown crust is formed on each side, and the resulting meat and potato mixture is slipped whole, in one round piece, on a platter for serving.

Perhaps you'd like the exact amounts of each ingredient in Corned Beef Hash:

One pound of cooked or canned corned beef	Cayenne
5 medium sized boiled potatoes	Salt if needed
One small or medium sized onion	

Put the corned beef, potato and onion through the meat grinder, using the fine knife. Season with a few grains of cayenne and salt if used. Grease lightly a heavy iron skillet. Put the hash into it in an even layer and cook over a low heat until a golden brown crust is formed. When brown place a pan or lid over the skillet and turn the hash out so the browned side is on top. Slip the uncooked side into the skillet and allow it to cook until golden brown. Turn onto a plate in the same way as when first turned and garnish with parsley.

To repeat the menu: Corned Beef Hash; String Beans; Creamed Celery; Fruit Cup; and Plain Cake.

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Tuesday: Shoeing the Family Intelligently.

